# National Canners Association

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Information Letter

For N. C. A. Members


Membership Letter No. 65. May 24, 1924.

Proposed Advance in Freight Rates on Canned Foods Opposed.
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## Proposed Advance in Freight Rates on Canned Foods Opposed.

On March 15, the Association took up with the Western Trunk Line Committee of the Illinois Freight Association, their proposal to advance the rates on canned foods, and on empty cans. The Association, through its Traffic Committee, is keeping in constant touch with this matter, and, while courteous responses to our presentation of the canners' interest have been received from all the railroads interested except one, we understand the matter has not been definitely dropped. On the other hand, the Official Classification Committee, under a special docket, is now proposing to advance the rating in Official Classification territory from Rule 26 to third class. If this is done, it is feared that the next procedure will be third class for all canned foods in tin.

Mr. E.S.De Pass, of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, Chairman of the Traffic Committee, will welcome coöperation from the industry in opposition to the proposed changes in the rates classification.

## Senate Passes Bill Amending Interstate Commerce Act.

In Membership Letter No. 58, under date of April 5, 1924, reference was made to Senate Bill No. 2327, amending Section 4 of the Interstate Commerce Act--the so-called "long and short haul rule". This bill passed the Senate on the 19th instant.

## Dutiable Weight of Pineapples in Tins.

Pineapples imported in tins, peeled, sliced, or cut in chunks, and immersed in water, hermetically sealed and sterilized, are dutiable under paragraph 746 of the Tariff Act of 1922. Recently, an importer protested against the payment of two cents a pound on the weight of the water included in packing the pineapples.

In its decision, the court stated, in part:

"The only question to be decided is as to whether the water in the tins should be assessed for duty as part of the weight. The ...l-

collector assessed duty under paragraph 746 of the law of 1922. * * * In weighing the goods, the collector included the weight of the surrounding liquid in the cans. The importer protests, claiming the liquid should be excluded from the weight of the contents of the can and duty assessed at two cents a pound on the pineapples only * * * The evidence in the case at bar shows that in this particular case, the water was thrown away. There was nothing, however, to show but what it could have been used for other purposes. It was not at all deleterious or injurious. As a matter of fact, it was more or less permeated with the juice of the pineapples."

The court overruled the protest and upheld the collector on the assessment of the duty on the entire weight of the pineapples and the liquid surrounding them.

## Dry Bean Standards.

At the request of the Department of Agriculture, a conference was arranged in Chicago at the time of the Western Canners meeting, at which a Government representative explained to a number of bean canners the interest of the Department of Agriculture in working out Federal standards for dry beans. Bean canners present expressed keen interest in the problem, and requested the Raw Products Bureau, in conjunction with the committee appointed at the Chicago meeting of the manufacturers of tomato products and with the Bean Section of the National Canners Association, to bring the matter to the attention of bean canners and obtain the sentiment of the industry as to the desirability of the proposed undertaking by the Department.

## Government Forecast of Canning Pea Acreage.

Figures released May 20 by the United States Department of Agriculture forecast "intended total acreage" for peas for manufacture for 1924, 226,750.

The tabulation shows a 20% increase in the acreage reported for 1924 by the same firms as reported in 1923. The total acreage for 1923 is given as 189,310.

## United States Navy in the Market for Canned Figs.

Bids will be opened at the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D.C., at 10:00 a.m., June 10, 1924, under schedule 2216, on 12,000 pounds of Calimyrna whole figs, in syrup, canned.

Members interested should communicate with the above address and secure blanks for bids on this requisition.

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